The 28th Annual Illinois Fallen Firefighter Memorial

Firefighting Medal of Honor Awards Ceremony



The 28th Annual Illinois Fallen Firefighter Memorial & Medal of Honor Awards Ceremony Program

Illinois Fallen Firefighter Monument

Presentation of the Colors Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois Honor Guard

Invocation Father John Ouper
Oswego Fire Protection District

Remarks Governor JB Pritzker

Bank of Springfield Center

Posting of the Colors Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois Honor Guard

Introductions Chief James Grady, III

Remarks State Fire Marshal Matt Perez

Invocation Father John Ouper

Bell Ceremony Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois Honor Guard

Presentation of the Gold Badge State Fire Marshal Matt Perez

"Taps" Kirsten Clemens

Ben King

Presentation of the Fire & Life Safety Award State Fire Marshal Matt Perez

Presentation of the Firefighter Excellence Award

Presentation of the Firefighter Excellence Unit Citation Award

Presentation of the Medal of Valor

Medal of Honor Committee & Memorial Foundation

September 11th Tribute

Closing Remarks Chief James Grady, III

Retire the Colors Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois Honor Guard

Line of Duty Death Gold Badge

The Gold Badge is presented to the families of firefighters who died while in, or as a result of, the performance of their duty.

Honorees

2019

2020

Captain Jacob Ringering

Firefighter Kody Vanfossan

Firefighter Mario Araujo

Firefighter Dylan Cunningham

Firefighter Robert Reisinger

Firefighter Edward Singleton

Paramedic Robert Truevillian

Godfrey Fire Protection District

Christopher Fire Department

Chi<mark>cago Fire</mark> Department

South Holland Fire Department

River Grove Fire Department

Chicago Fire Department

Chicago Fire Department

Office of the State Fire Marshal Fire & Life Safety Award

The Fire & Life Safety Award is presented to recognize the extraordinary efforts in furtherance of fire prevention and life safety by fire departments, firefighters, and staff from the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal.

Recipients

Lieutenant Edward Dunne Dale Simpson Daniel Bauer Evergreen Park Fire Department Office of the State Fire Marshal Office of the State Fire Marshal

Firefighter Excellence Award

The Firefighter Excellence Award is awarded for an act of service in the line of duty, demonstrating excellence and professionalism in service to the citizens of the State of Illinois.

Recipients

Firefighter Joseph Brignall
Firefighter Kyle Harms
Chief Ronald Guetersloh
Firefighter/PM Josh Hertzmann
Firefighter/PM Zach Toepper
Lieutenant Philip Hutto
Firefighter/PM Jason Pawlowski
Firefighter/PM Joseph Schwinger
Firefighter/PM James Baumgartner
Firefighter/PM Nicholas Felber
Captain Matt Starr
Lieutenant Richard Stumbaugh
Firefighter/PM Chris Elliott
Firefighter/PM Steven Diehl

Galesburg Fire Department
Galesburg Fire Department
Gorham Volunteer Fire Department
Lockport Township Fire Protection District
South Elgin/Countryside Fire Protection District
South Elgin/Countryside Fire Protection District
South Elgin/Countryside Fire Protection District

Firefighter Excellence "Unit Citation" Award

The Firefighter Excellence "Unit Citation" Award is awarded for an act of service in the line of duty, demonstrating excellence, teamwork, and professionalism in service to the citizens of the State of Illinois.

Recipients

Incident #20-0301200—Arthur Fire Department

Firefighter Eric Gingerich Firefighter Clint Herschberger Firefighter Lamar Hostetler Firefighter Elmer Miller

Incident # 20-03415—Bolingbrook Fire Department

Lieutenant Sergio Calleros Lieutenant David Proffitt
Firefighter/PM Mark Patrick

Incident #20-0002218—Canton Fire Department

Lieutenant Clark Evans Firefighter Cody Cheatham
Firefighter Jake Leake

Incident # 20-20004—Gorham Volunteer Fire Department

1st Lieutenant Phillip Bonneville 2nd Lieutenant Sam Baumgarte Firefighter Bryce Mueller Firefighter Logan Roe

Incident # 20-0002649—South Elgin/Countryside Fire Protection District

Ambulance 22

Firefighter/PM Matt Dalbke Firefighter/EMT Kevin Henryson

Engine 21

Firefighter/PM Robert Rimgale
Engine 22

Lieutenant Mitchell Krasowski Firefighter/PM Neal Lippold

Firefighter/PM Brian Sloan

Tower 21

Firefighter/PM Dustin Differding Firefighter/PM Jon Pollock

Medal of Valor

The Medal of Valor award is given by the state of Illinois to a firefighter for an act of heroism or bravery that clearly demonstrated courage and dedication in the face of danger while in the performance of duty.

Recipients

Firefighter Lance Lusk

Firefighter/EMT Darryl Jones

Firefighter/EMT Ryan Quinn

Canton Fire Department

Chicago Fire Department

Chicago Fire Department

Medal of Honor

The Medal of Honor is the highest award given by the State of Illinois to a firefighter for an act of outstanding bravery or heroism, by which the firefighter has demonstrated in great degree the characteristics of selflessness and personal courage above and beyond the call of duty, under adverse conditions, with the possibility of extreme personal risk.



2019 Award Recipients

In 2020, the 27th Annual Illinois Fallen Firefighter Memorial & Medal of Honor Awards Ceremony was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The following individuals and departments were presented awards at their respective fire stations:

OSFM Fire & Life Safety Award

Deputy District Chief Walter Schroeder Robert Wetzel Mitch Kushner Chicago Fire Department Office of the State Fire Marshal Office of the State Fire Marshal

Firefighter Excellence Award

Lieutenant Thomas Stahl
Firefighter/Paramedic Pablo Ramirez
Engineer Jeremy DeJournett
Firefighter Matthew Preston
Captain/EMT Salvatore Mastrodomenico
Firefighter/Paramedic Chris Jagels
Firefighter/Paramedic Eric Smith
Captain Justin Wilkinson
Firefighter Kyle Roberson

Beach Park Fire Protection District
Beach Park Fire Protection District
Belleville Fire Department
Belleville Fire Department
Chicago Fire Department
Huntley Fire Protection District
Huntley Fire Protection District
Rosewood Heights Fire Protection District

Firefighter Excellence Unit Citation Award

Benton Fire Department
Huntley Fire Protection District
Murphysboro Fire Department
Rosewood Heights Fire Protection District
Wood River Fire Department

Champaign Fire Department
Lincolnshire/Riverwoods Fire Protection District
Orland Park Fire Protection District
West Frankfort Fire Department
Veigler Fire Department

Certificate of Recognition

Captain Curtis Glover Firefighter David Rogers Firefighter/Paramedic Joseph Keenan Lieutenant/Paramedic Anthony Nichols Litchfield Fire Department Litchfield Fire Department Niles Fire Department Troy Fire Protection District

Dedicated to the Firefighters of Illinois

In 1993, the Illinois Fire Services Association unanimously agreed that a monument should be erected to serve as the official memorial on the grounds adjacent to the State Capitol Building. The Firefighting Medal of Honor Committee, appointed by the Governor, assumed the responsibility of bringing the memorial to reality.

Working with the Secretary of State's office, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and a nationally recognized sculptor, the committee developed a design concept to transform the site into a memorial in which the fire service of Illinois would be proud. The Illinois Firefighter Memorial is dedicated to the firefighters of Illinois, who have given their lives in the line of duty and to those firefighters who heroically serve with courage, pride and honor.

The artist was commissioned to design and construct an original bronze work of art consisting of four life-size figures of firefighters in full gear, a child, a ladder and hose. Each adult figure is approximately 6'2" tall if in a standing position and represents the firefighters in full protective clothing, in action.

The art was created through the "lost wax" method of bronze casting and is finished in an antique bronze fire-on patina suitable for exterior exhibition, signed and dated by the artist. The figures are situated on a cairn 14 feet high consisting of Renaissance stone. There are 2,400 red paver bricks which are enclosed by a two foot high wall with capstones engraved with contributor's names.

It is here, at the Illinois Firefighter Memorial, that we honor those who have made the supreme sacrifice.

Firefighting Medal of Honor Committee

The Governor of Illinois appoints the Firefighting Medal of Honor Committee, established by PA 86–1230, consisting of the State Fire Marshal, Fire Commissioner of the City of Chicago, fire chiefs, representatives of fire service organizations, and retirees.

Timothy S. Clemens
Jay Coburn
Demond Dade
Daniel Fortuna
James Grady, III
Tracy Kenny
Annette Nance-Holt
Matt Perez
Rick Welle

Wilmette Fire Department (Ret.)
Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois
Deputy Chief, Urbana Fire Department
Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois
Illinois Fire Chiefs Association
Chief, Broadview Fire Department
Fire Commissioner, City of Chicago
State Fire Marshal
Edwardsville Fire Department (Ret.)

Firefighter Memorial Foundation

Membership in the Foundation also includes all members of the Firefighting Medal of Honor Committee.

Terry Ford Greg Knoll James LaMotte Robert Zamor Godfrey Fire Protection District (Ret.)
Homewood Fire Department (Ret.)
Momence Fire Protection District (Ret.)
Libertyville Fire Department (Ret.)



